

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 1987 amendments to the federal Clean Water Act included requirements for states to prepare and submit two reports to the Environmental Protection Agency: a state assessment report describing the state's nonpoint pollution problems, and a state management program outlining the actions the state intends to conduct to address its nonpoint pollution problems.

Iowa's nonpoint assessment report was completed in July 1988, and Iowa's first Nonpoint Source Management Program (NPSMP) was submitted to EPA in December 1989. The 1989 NPSMP addressed only agricultural related nonpoint sources and impacts. In September 1992, Iowa's NPSMP was revised to address all nonpoint sources, including urban.

Through this report, Iowa's NPSMP is being upgraded to comply with guidance developed by a committee of EPA and state representatives. This guidance directed states to upgrade their programs to become more effective and efficient through the coordination and integration of nonpoint and other water quality programs. Dynamic and effective state programs were characterized by Nine Key Elements, which the states were requested to address in the program upgrades. For Iowa to qualify for full Section 319 funding in FY2000 and future years, an upgraded NPSMP must be submitted and approved by EPA

Iowa's Nonpoint Source Management Program identifies Iowa's water resources, the nonpoint source impacts to our resources and the variety of programs and partners which address nonpoint source issues. The Nonpoint Source Management Program also identifies the processes which these programs use to prioritize the resources to ensure the needs of the state are met to the extent possible with the resources available.

Chapter 1 provides an overview of Iowa's water resources. Included is a summary of the number of lakes, streams, reservoirs and wetlands; the surface water designations; and the groundwater sources.

Chapter 2 identifies the nonpoint source pollution impacting Iowa's water resources. As Iowa is predominately an agricultural state, the majority of state's efforts has historically been in addressing ag-related issues. While agriculture will continue to have a potentially significant impact on Iowa's water resources, other areas which have been addressed and will continue to receive consideration include: urban runoff, stormwater, construction sites, on-site wastewater disposal and waste disposal.

Chapter 3 summarizes the programs and partners involved in addressing the nonpoint source issues of the state. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is the lead agency in addressing nonpoint source pollution through the administration of the Section 319 program and other water quality programs. However, the IDNR is not the sole agency dealing with nonpoint source pollution issues. Many other agencies and organizations are involved with varied levels of responsibilities in protecting Iowa's water resources from nonpoint source pollution.

Chapter 4 provides information regarding the historical accomplishments of the programs, the programs as they currently exist, and changes that are expected and/or needed, including funding projections. In addition, Chapter 4 includes Iowa's responses to the Nine Key Elements, which EPA provided as an outline to upgrading the nonpoint source programs. Included in these elements are the goals and objectives designed, with input from the Nonpoint Source Management Program Advisory Committee, to protect and restore the waters of the state that are impacted by or have the potential to be impacted by nonpoint source pollution.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division developed the draft NPSMP. The draft NPSMP was provided to the NPSMP Advisory Committee for review, comment and input. The Advisory Committee's comments were considered in the development of the final NPSMP.

The Nonpoint Source Management Program Advisory Committee included representatives from the following agencies and organizations:

- Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Environmental Protection Division
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Geological Survey Bureau
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Fish and Wildlife Division
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Iowa Department of Agricultural and Land Stewardship – Division of Soil Conservation
- Natural Resources Conservation Services
- Iowa State University Extension
- Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture
- Conservation Districts of Iowa
- Iowa Environmental Council
- Iowa Farm Bureau Federation